

THE POULTRY MESSENGER

& WESTERN FRUIT-GROWER.

Vol. 2.

AURELIA, IOWA, AUGUST, 1896.

No. 6

**Barred
Plymouth
Rocks.**

Do You Want Eggs?

For hatching from good birds of standard quality and large size? My yards are mated to give satisfaction. Send in your order now. Eggs \$1.50 per setting.

MRS. H. E. SANBORN,
Fairbank, Iowa.

Des Moines Valley **Poultry Yards**

A. H. LANE, Proprietor.

Keosauqua, Iowa.

Eggs from high class Light Brahmas, P. Cochins, Barred P. Rocks, R. C. B. Leghorns and Black Minorcas. Circular free.

Lee's Lice Killer
LIQUID

Kills all mites, bed bugs, fleas, etc., about the poultry house and all body lice on the fowls, by simply painting it on the roosts and dropping boards with an ordinary paint brush. Circulars with testimonials, free.

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For Sale by B. R. OLDS, Aurelia, Iowa.

One-half gal 50c; 1 gal. 75c; 5 gal. \$3.

EGGS

For hatching from high-scoring, thoroughbred S. C. Brown Leghorns, S. and Golden Wyandottes, B. Ply. Rocks and Mammoth Pekin Ducks, \$1.25 per 13.

Also very fine well rooted strawberry plants of the best varieties. Price, 50 cents per 100 plants. Everything first class. Write for new catalogue.

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—BREEDER OF—

Barred Plymouth Rocks Exclu'y.

Cockerels one dollar each, two for \$1.75. Eggs \$1.00 for 15; \$1.50 for 30.

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"Bean's Buffs"

Won 50 premiums

At Anoka December 20, to 25, 1895. Holden, Judge, and are not striving for business on the record of birds long dead and gone.

75 **Fine Birds for Sale.** 75

At reasonable prices. Try us. A full line of

Poultry Supplies

And Specialties of all kinds at Rock Bottom Prices. Terms cash. Circular and price list free if you mention the MESSENGER.

Anoka Buff Poultry Yards.

Lock Box 72.

ANOKA, MINN.

Buff Wyandottes
EXCLUSIVELY.

Three Grand Pens

Stock as Good as the Best.
Young Birds For Sale.

Write for what you want. If I have not got it I will tell you so.

P. D. WINE, Aurelia, Iowa.

Mansfield Poultry Company,

Breeders of thoroughbred Silver Laced Wyandottes, Light Brahmas, Single Comb Brown Leghorns, Single Comb White Leghorns, Pekin Ducks and Bronze Turkeys. Send for catalogue.

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KENTFIELD'S **Harmless**
LIQUID **TO FOWLS.**
LOUSE **Quick Results.**
KILLER **Sure death to all**
Poultry Lice. **Hundred are using it.**
Why don't you? **J. A. KENTFIELD.**
Morrison, Illinois.

Golden Wyandottes,
AND Golden Seabright Bantams.

EXCLUSIVELY.

Eggs in season, \$1.50 per setting; two settings \$2.50. Stock for sale.

Our Stock Has Won

Many prizes for our patrons. We have shown but once, a pen of Bantams at the Rockford, Illinois, show, January, 1896. We won four prizes on them, score 90½, 94, 93, 93, 93.

J. J. BEAN, Abbotsford, Wisconsin.

HATCH CHICKENS BY STEAM—
With the **MODEL**
Excelsior Incubator.
Simple, Perfect, Self-Regulating. Thousands in successful operation. Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs at less cost than any other Hatcher. Lowest priced first-class Hatcher made. **GEO. H. STAHL,**
114 to 122 S. 6th St., Quincy, Ill.

Circulars free.
Send 6c. for
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WE WARRANT

THE RELIABLE



SELF-REGULATING.

To hatch 80 per cent of the fresh and fertile eggs. Hundreds of recent testimonials! Have this year (1896) issued our Eleventh Annual Poultry Guide and Combined Catalogue in one valuable book.

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Yards
High
Class
Fowls

This 148-page, fully illustrated Poultry Guide tells you about profits in poultry; about hatching eggs with machines; about brooding chicks without hens. We have for sale sixteen popular kinds of thoroughbred fowls; also full line of Poultry Supplies—anything you want. Price of Guide, 10 cents in stamps—worth one dollar.

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MESH.	WIRE.	12-in	18-in	24-in	36-in	48-in	60-in	72-in
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Discount of 5 per cent on 5 rolls; 10 per cent on 10 rolls. Freight prepaid up to 40c per 100 lbs. on 5 or more rolls. This will cover cost of freight to most points east of the Mississippi.

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We are America's Headquarters. Largest Stock. Lowest Prices. Prompt Shipments.

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Is's a pretty book of 80 pages. Finely Illustrated. A 2-cent stamp gets it.
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Nonpareil Poultry Yards, La Salle, Illinois.

J. A. WEERTS, PROP.

Breeder of

ROSE-COMB
BROWN

LEGHORNS,

SINGLE AND ROSE
COMB BLACK

MINORCAS.

No eggs for sale this season. Stock for sale in the fall, with score cards.

GREER'S

BARRED Plymouth Rocks

SILVER LACED WYANDOTTES,

....AND....

S. C. Brown Leghorns,

Are from the

Best Strains in America.

Eighteen years experience enables me to Mate For Best Results. Eggs this season \$2.00 for 15. My circular shows the most beautiful cut of a pullet I ever saw. Address

O. P. GREER, Bourbon, Indiana.

Buff Plymouth Rocks

EXCLUSIVELY.

I am Breeding
Three Pens of Them.

PEN NUMBER ONE CONTAINS

Four Pullets scoring respectively 93, 93½, 94, 94½, winning everything at Illinois State Fair, Bloomington, and Illinois State Poultry Shows.

For utility and beauty the Buff is the Rock of them all. Mine are the original Coin Gold strain, and their score proves their standard value.

EGGS \$3.00 PER SETTING.

Get a setting and climb with us to the summit of glory on Plymouth Rock.

ISRAEL ROOT, Bloomington, Illinois.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS exclusively. Conger, Hawkins, Lawton's best strains. Write me before you buy. J. D. Stevenson, Killbuck, O.

REWARD!

The Publishers of

Feathered Realm

Offer \$12.00 worth of space each month for articles. The only paper of its kind in Western Pennsylvania. Send for samples.

ENTERPRISE PUBLISHING CO.

Cambridgeboro, Penn.

BLACK

Langshans,

and B. Fly. ROCKS.

Langshan cockerels heading pen score 94 and 94½ points by Emry.

Langshan Eggs \$1.25 per sitting.

Ply. Rock \$1.00

A Sixty per cent hatch guaranteed or order refilled free of cost.

M. PARROTT.

Aurelia, Iowa.

T. C. Crepps,

—BREEDER OF—

Barred Plymouth Rocks Exclu'y.

Cockerels one dollar each, two for \$1.75. Eggs \$1.00 for 15; \$1.50 for 30.

T. C. CREPPS, Aurelia, Iowa

Improved Chester Whites

BY MAIL.



Not the whole hog, but photographs of the very individual we offer you. Send us a description of what you want and we will send you a photograph of what we think will suit you. If you wish to purchase, we will send them free to be returned with order

WILLIS WHINERY, Salem, Ohio

Caponizing Set Free! *

For 25 Subscribers

To The Messenger we will present one set of G. P. Pilling & Son's caponizing tools, expressage prepaid.

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One Cause of Sickly Flocks.

If anyone had a fowl with enlargements about the head, or stuffed up nostrils, last winter, it will be the part of wisdom to dispose of it at once, no matter how much its supposed value. All evidences of sickness may have disappeared with the coming of the summer, but they are liable to manifest themselves again in an exaggerated form next winter. It is best not to take any chances on anything related to roup. And the surest way of keeping the flock free from everything of that kind is to promptly do away with every fowl thus affected.

Perhaps roup can be cured. Many people claim that it can, and we shall not dispute their word. But we don't want any fowls about us that have ever to any extent suffered from the disease, we care not how thoroughly they may have been cured of it. No one could make us a present of such a bird.

We believe it safe to infer that many people who have been compelled to recognize the fact that their flock lacks stamina, and who have found all their efforts to improve it in this respect futile, could, if they had been sufficiently observant, trace the whole cause of the trouble to the source above alluded to. They have habitually retained birds in the breeding pens which carried the seeds of this disease in their systems, though giving but slight outward evidence of the fact. The weakness is thus transmitted from year to year, and in time permeates the entire flock.

To chop off the head of every fowl that shows any indications of a catarrhal trouble seems like a merciless thing to do. It takes courage to deal with one in that manner that is regarded as especially valuable, but it is the safest and surest way of guarding the flock from a weakness which will be a constant disappointment and loss to the owner. If the disease is curable, not one breeder in fifty will have the pa-

tience, knowledge, and promptitude required to overcome it.

An Excellent Tonic.

An excellent tonic, and one easily made, is to take two pounds of new cut nails and put them into a gallon jug. Pour over them a half pint of strong vinegar, and as much soft water as will just cover the nails. Let it stand for two days, shaking occasionally so as to rust the nails in every part. Then fill with water to make a gallon. Put about a half cupful daily in about a gallon of drinking water, especially during a change of seasons. This gives a better iron tonic than the old method of placing rusty iron in the drinking water, and we like it better than plain tincture of iron. If put in the drinking water during molting, it will give strong evidence of toning qualities, and if placed before fowls recovering from sickness it shows its strengthening power.—Ex.

Summer Egg-Eaters.

Egg-eating is not altogether a winter vice. Hens will eat eggs in summer if there is a strong temptation held out to them to do so, and the opportunities are favorable for indulging the desire. It would be supposed that hens that are at large would pick up enough animal food to satisfy the appetite which it is believed gives rise to the egg-eating habit. But this is not always the case. If eggs are permitted to lie around in full sight of the flock, one or more of them is liable to get broken and eaten, and then the mischief is to pay. After that one, or two, or a half dozen of the hens will come off the range with bulging crops, and take an egg or two for desert. The egg-eater is never fully broken of the vice. In summer or winter she will eat eggs if she happens to feel that way. The luxury of the first taste clings to her to the end of her days. It is not safe at any time of year to be careless about the arrangement of

the nesting boxes, or the frequent removal of the eggs from the same.

A Pointer for Breeders of Buffs.

An old breeder of buff s cautions beginners against breeding together birds of extreme shades. For instance, one is liable to suppose that if a very dark male, bordering on cinnamon, is bred to a light colored female, the product will be a shade about midway between the two. But such is not the usual result. Matings of this kind commonly produce birds of light color in one part, and dark or mottled in another. The lack of uniformity will make the product a specimen of little or no value. It is advised never to mate birds between which there is more than two shades difference in color. By persisting in this plan the color can be gradually deepened and evenly distributed. Those without experience in the breeding of buff s are very liable to fall into the above mistake, and it will be to the advantage of beginners to heed the warning given them by this old breeder.

Two for the Price of One.

We will send the MESSENGER and either of the following journals to any address for 50 cents. The regular subscription price of all the papers in the list is 50 cents. You get the MESSENGER for nothing. Whatever your opinion of the latter, you will probably admit that it is cheap enough on these conditions. It may be a little gain to you to subscribe for these journals through this office, and it will be of no small advantage to us.

The Reliable Poultry Journal.
The Poultry Tribune. (Freeport, Ill.)
The Poultry Herald.
The Western Poultry Journal.
The Feathered Realm.
The Michigan Poultry Breeder.

Poultry keeping will prove a failure to the person who cannot see anything in particular to do from now till winter

Poultry Farms Big and Little.

Huge catalogues, large and showy illustrations in the poultry papers of yards and buildings, a long record of shows attended and prizes won, are not to be accepted as proof that these are the only places where birds of the first class are to be obtained. These things are all right, and it affords pleasure to everyone who has the good of the poultry industry at heart to see them. The industry, the enterprise and the business sagacity back of all this command our respect and admiration. They are monuments to the honor of their founders and an inspiration to all the lesser lights who have an ambition to reach the top round of the ladder. They show the possibilities open to all who have the quickness to see their opportunities, and the energy and mental alertness to use them to the best advantage. And these large plants are noted as much for their square dealing as their fine birds. Reputation is everything to them. Honesty is the very foundation stone of their business. Without it their large interests would soon tumble to the ground. They could not afford to be dishonest if they wanted to.

But while commending the pride which the possessors of these large poultry farms must feel in their ownership, and confessing their great value to the poultry interests of the country, we shall repeat what we said at the beginning of this article: it is not a matter of absolute necessity to go to them in order to procure stock of the highest merit. Birds as good as money can buy can be had of breeders who don't own large poultry farms, and who don't issue catalogues which are an encyclopedia of poultry lore, and a marvel of artistic illustration. Their modest circular looks abashed when laid beside the gorgeous catalogue, but the fowls which it describes are strictly "in it" when they meet in the poultry shows with those which come up from the above named aristocratic surroundings. And it has happened on very numerous occasions that the big catalogue and all its pretentious birds have been very handsomely knocked out by those of some unknown and unnoticed breeder who came unheralded to the show from some remote corner of the "back country." These are the breeders who are overlooked and neglected, and it is the intention of this article speak a well de-

served word in their favor. The big breeders, with established reputations, and acres of yards and buildings, do not need any one to assert their claims to buyers. The public bows to their greatness, and pays them the homage which is their due. But these little fellows whose names are printed in small letters in obscure corners of the poultry papers, are not properly appreciated. They are not getting the recognition which they deserve.

The country is full of poultrymen who are in the business in a comparatively small way whose flocks are equal in every particular to the finest which can be bought at the large poultry farms. The foundation of many of these flocks came straight from the yards of the best known breeders in the land, and the purchasers have the wit and the experience necessary to keep them up to the high standard which first led them to recognize their value and make them their own. It is a mistake, and many times an expensive one to buyers, to become grounded in the belief that breeders of this class are not in a position to furnish first class stock. It is the stock from this quarter which in the poultry shows often plays havoc with the calculations of the large breeders, for in many cases these breeders are thus brought into competition with the descendants of some of the choicest specimens of their own yards. And a point which it is not well to overlook is that this blood can usually be bought of the small breeder for less than half the money which would be required to procure it at first hands from the person who originated the strain.

Don't patronize the small breeder simply because he is a small breeder, and his prices are low. And don't patronize the large breeder merely because he cuts a big figure in the poultry world, and his prices are high. In either case you are liable to waste your money and learn wisdom when it is too late for it to do you any good. Only do not take it for granted that the breeder who prosecutes his business in a small and unpretentious way cannot possibly have the kind of goods of which you are in need. Give him a chance to show what he can do for you. Examine and investigate, and buy only when the proofs are sufficient to make you safe in so doing. This small breeder is a much neglected and misunderstood person. He demands the right of having his

claims to public confidence fairly considered.

A New Cholera Cure.

Several of our subscribers have asked us for a cholera cure, and we suspect the disease is quite prevalent. We take pleasure in giving the following letter from a valued correspondent in West Virginia. He says: "I am a physician, a country doctor, with two acres of land and several hobbies, one of them chickens. Four years ago cholera broke out among my flocks, and I tried every remedy I could think of. Finally I took some antiseptic tablets, consisting of 7 3 10-grain corrosive sublimate and 3 4 5 grains of citric acid in each and dissolved one in one gallon of boiling water and gave as a drink. Cholera stricken fowls will drink if they do not eat. From that on I lost but one or two that were too far gone to drink, and in another instance where I found it present, I repeated the treatment with equal success. Since then I usually give it once a month as a preventive, continuing it for three days. If occasion offers I would like you to try the remedy. The tablets are a deadly poison—used as of course you know, as external applications in solution in surgical cases. The good, if I am correct in their doing this good, lies in the antiseptic action of the corrosive sublimate—the citric acid merely favoring the solubility of the tablet; the tablet I advise because of the dosage being certain."—Farm and Stockman.

Mr. C. A. Shaw, of Middleboro, Mass. went off to inspect Black Spanish. When he got to the flocks of John Bennett, Sunman, Indiana, he went no farther, for he said they were perfection, and could not be better.—Poultry Keeper.

Vigor should be the first thing considered in selecting out the young stock which is to be kept over the winter. No matter what the bird may be in plumage it should not be retained if it appears to be lacking in the above particular. As the best bred horse is of no value without good legs, so there is nothing to a fowl to make it worth having if it does not have health. To the practiced eye of the experienced breeder, the style and carriage of the bird will generally denote constitutional vigor, or the opposite. Too much unsound stock has been used as breeders.

Knows How to Treat Impostors.

FREDERICK. E. COLEMAN, MANCHESTER GREEN, CONN.

I see in the May MESSENGER a paragraph about keeping a pen of disqualified fowls with a view to meeting the frequent demand for a dozen eggs "for table use." I believe in that way myself. There is a class of people who are always on the lookout for getting something valuable without paying what it is worth, and I feel perfectly justified in taking advantage of the situation for heading these people off.

I am also of the opinion that the breeder of fullblood fowls has an unquestionable right to destroy the germ of eggs which he sells on the market, if he can do so without thereby impairing their keeping qualities, or unfitting them for household use. When I sell eggs in either of the above mentioned ways the buyer gets what he pays for. I can't see that I am under any obligations to furnish him with a dozen eggs worth from two to three dollars for fifteen or twenty cents. Those who see anything wrong in this have been educated in a different school of ethics from that in which I received my training. I aim to deal fairly with my fellows, and my conscience does not tell me that I am departing from what is right in doing business on this basis.

And now while I am talking I want to say that I disapprove of the practice which so many breeders have adopted of selling eggs at just half price during the latter part of the hatching season. Every person of experience knows the difficulty of rearing late hatched chicks and also understands the uncertainty about these late hatches ever developing into first-class birds. Many buyers wait for the cut price before purchasing, and then make a big fuss about the runty stock which they obtain from these eggs. If these people understood that there would be no reduction in price they would buy their eggs in season, and there would be much less complaint about the supposed dishonesty of breeders. We believe the system is pernicious, and we hope to see the time when it will be wholly discontinued. It would be interesting to us to hear the views of others on this subject. We cannot believe we are alone in the opinion that for the reasons named, and others which cannot here be given, it would be better for breeders to have one price for eggs the year round.

Not a Trifling Matter.

If the hens suddenly cease laying in the heat of the summer without any assignable reason, the feed and attentions to the flock being the same as they have been accustomed to for weeks before, the owner had better take it as a warning that something is about to happen which will make things lively for him. If the combs change from a bright red to a dull, lustreless color, and the fowls appear indolent and listless, with ruffled plumage and decreased appetite, there is good cause for alarm. These are signs of failing health, and the fact that the whole flock is similarly affected, adds to the probability that these first symptoms are signals of an approaching outbreak which will be serious.

A lessening of the egg yield should be expected in July and August, but the change will not occur within the space of a few days from natural causes. The hens even though of the same age will not begin to moult precisely at the same time. When everything is right with the flock there will be a gradual "tapering off" from a full to a half-full basket of eggs, or less, as each member of the flock enters upon the process of shedding the old, and growing a new coat of feathers. If the flock is made up of good egg producers, the supply will not cease altogether, for nearly half of them will continue to lay all through the moulting period. But when the hens all or nearly all suddenly cease laying about the same time, dropping from the average production to nearly nothing within the space of a week or ten days, it is pretty safe to conclude that something else apart from moulting is creating the trouble. It may not be cholera, for we believe cholera is an unusual disease, and that not one poultryman in ten ever has a contest with it. But so far as immediate results are concerned it may prove just as disastrous to the owner as the cholera. But whatever the impending trouble, the poultryman cannot afford to lightly regard these signs. It is a bad plan to go on the theory that in as much as he has done his duty by the flock there cannot be anything seriously wrong with it, and passively wait for things to correct themselves. If he is well up in his business he will be alive to the demands of the occasion, and prepare himself to put a check to the advance of what he will at once recognize as a dangerous enemy.

Don't neglect the opportunity to store away some bright clover hay for the use of the laying hens the coming winter. Those who have never fed cut clover as a part of the winter ration are in no position to appreciate its usefulness.

The runty pullet that became sick while running with the mother hen, and is now only about one half as large as the balance of the brood, will be a runt all its life. Do not allow it to go into the winter coop with the balance of the young stock which is to be retained as layers. Kill it, give it away, or pay somebody a quarter to take it off your hands. It will pay you better to dispose of it in either of these ways than to give it board and house room for the winter.

Poultry keeping is a delightful business and a profitable business, but it is not the kind of business for which the lazy man is looking. It calls for work. Not for the muscle straining, back breaking work required for cutting sawlogs or digging ditches, but for ceaseless, painstaking, intelligent work, such as no lazy man is qualified to perform. The man who takes solid comfort in sleeping all night and half the day, and resting at odd spells between, makes the mistake of his life when he decides that a light and easy occupation like poultry keeping is exactly the kind of employment suited to his inclinations and talents.

EXERCISE.

Is of the utmost importance if you would have eggs of vigorous germs to make strong chickens. After studying poultry over 40 years, and publishing the monthly Poultry World 25 years, I have invented a method of making fowls work for a living that beats the ordinary scratch pen all hollow. Send postal card for particulars to

H. H. STODDARD,
Kearney, Neb.



Yarded Fowls.

It is not necessary to give the hens a wide range in order to obtain eggs in summer. Everything that the hens require in order to produce eggs can be supplied them in yards, and there is no necessity for turning them loose to wander over a large grassy lot.

We can obtain more eggs by confining the hens in yards than by allowing them to run at large. There is no surmise about this. We have tested the matter to our satisfaction. But we do not compel them to get their living altogether from corn, wheat and oats. A large basketful of finely chopped grass is placed before them twice a day, and they are regularly supplied with green bone or meat scraps in some form. Twice a week we go into the yards with a horse and an old fashioned double shovel plow, and plow up a strip six or eight feet wide, a pint of wheat being scattered over the ground before the plowing begins. We usually do this of a morning before the doors are opened which admit the hens to the yards.

When our hens are once shut in the yards they are in prison for life, except such as are used for setting and the rearing of broods. They do not come out again until they go off to market. The range is all given up to the growing stock. We have never found any advantage in allowing the hens to wander at will over the place. They may get more enjoyment out of life in that way, but they fail to make a return for the privilege in practical results.

Duck Farming in the West.

It appears that the cheap grain of the west ought to make duck farming on the prairies profitable. If there is money in ducks in the east where the price of corn and oats as a usual thing is fully double what it can be bought for here, it seems that this business is one which is well suited to the west. The freight charges ought not swallow up all the profits with such a difference as this in the cost of the feed in favor of the western people.

We know of no duck farm of considerable proportions west of Illinois. We have knowledge of at least one in the western part of that state where from 500 to 1000 breeders are kept, and we are creditably informed that the owner is doing a profitable business.

Ducks are subject to fewer diseases

than chickens, and can be reared at a cost of much less time and labor. It is said that lice, the chief destroyer of chickens during the growing period, do not trouble them. Given a shelter from the storms and enough to eat, the flocks can be brought to a marketable condition with comparatively little loss. It is safe to say that many of the farmers of the west could thus find a market for a share of their corn crop at at least double the price which they obtain for it at the present low price of cattle and hogs. And many farmers could rear a flock of several hundred ducks who would make a dismal failure with chickens.

More Experience.

JOHN BENNETT, SUNMAN, IND.

I herewith send to the MESSENGER two items of personal experience which I believe to be worthy of notice.

In packing some eggs for a customer the shell of one got cracked. By pressure with the hand the crack would expand, disclosing the membrane under the shell. I pasted a strip of paper over the crack with mucilage, and placed the egg under a setting hen. The result is a lively chick which does not appear to know that there was anything out of the usual order with the egg from which it was hatched. Valuable eggs are worth patching, and this experience has taught me not to regard such eggs as worthless in future. We shall not hesitate to make use of cracked eggs hereafter so long as the membrane is not ruptured.

I had a hen setting on 12 eggs in an old heating stove. After she had been at her task about a week she came off sometime during an afternoon, and the door of the stove was accidentally closed preventing her from getting back on the eggs. She was off of the nest all night, the eggs meanwhile being exposed to a cold draught. I had little hope of any of them hatching, but the hen seemed anxious to resume her task, and as I was curious to see what success she would have, I decided to let her have her way about it. The result was that she brought off eight chicks from the twelve eggs. For the benefit of one of your incredulous correspondents, we will say that this is no "fish story." Perhaps the incident will be of interest to some of your readers. Eggs don't "chill" as easily as many people believe.

A Critical Period.

July and August are the most critical months of the year to the keeper of poultry. Neglect of the flocks at this time is very likely to completely spoil his business for twelve months to come. Don't take any chances. Make the poultry house clean, and keep it clean. See that the fowls have a variety of food and not too much grain. Don't compel them to roost in a house closer or hotter than your own sleeping apartments. If there is no other way to prevent it, shut them out of the poultry house at night, and fix up a temporary roosting place out in the yard—something which can be easily pulled down and removed later in the season. Keep an eye out for the first sign of disease, and at once separate the ailing bird from the balance of the flock. The moulting season is here, and the cholera plague is roaming about ready to respond to any call to walk in and make itself at home. But don't get excited. Simply keep a cool head and make use of your common sense. Only keep at work, and don't allow yourself to think that anything which would add to the health and vigor of the flock is too small to be safely overlooked or neglected.

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Laundry and Toilet Soap

In 20 minutes. Worth \$1.00 and a saving of \$25.00 per year to any family.

Southern Weekly News,
Roanoke, Virginia.

L. E. SWONGER, Logansville, O.

Breeds the Best.

—200—

R. C. B. Leghorns
S. C. B. Leghorns,
W. C. B. Polish,
S. S. Hamburgs,
C. I. Games,
B. Minorcas,
Buff Cochins.

Early Hatched birds for sale. The birds from my yards will win more prizes this year than before. Selected birds for breeding pens.

Egg \$2.00 per fifteen; \$5.00 per forty-five.

CURES
CAROWE Roup,

In poultry. Price 50 cents. Walter Kirby & Co., Marietta, Ohio.

Prove It by the Books.

The hen that doesn't lay one hundred eggs during the year is not worth keeping. It is estimated that it takes all of what one hundred eggs will bring in market to feed and rear the hen up to the time that she will lay her first egg. This is probably very nearly correct if the time of the owner and the cost of the premises which give her a range are taken into account.

The poultryman can never be sure that his flock is a paying one unless he knows how many eggs the hens furnish in the course of a year. And this cannot be ascertained without some book-keeping in the poultry house. The system for doing this need not be a complicated one. A lead pencil with a string to it, and a small part of a planed board hung up in the poultry house, are all in the way of "office fixtures" required. Don't forget the string, or the pencil will not always be there when it is wanted, and the hens will get cheated. Every time the eggs are gathered set the number down in the book. Every time a hen is removed from the pen or added to it, make a note of that too, with the date. Keep the books straight so that you could swear to their correctness if necessary, and do this not for one or two months, but for the entire year. It is very little to the owner's advantage to know how many eggs the hens laid inside of one or two or six months. They must be fed and cared for throughout the year, and it should be known if they produce eggs enough to pay for the expense and trouble during the whole of that time. It is poor business to guess at a matter of this kind when the proof is so easy to obtain.

According to the last census report the hens of the United States do not average a hundred eggs apiece in a year. Either this is not true, or else the American hen is little better than a beggar. A poultryman who is looking mainly to eggs for his profits, and cannot persuade his hens to do better than that, had better seek some other kind of a job. And one who don't know how many eggs his flock is capable of producing yearly may well entertain a doubt of his fitness for the business in which he is engaged.

Nothing Better Than Whitewash.

The best thing which has ever come our way for the purification of the nur-

sery coops is good old fashioned white-wash. Beginning when the brood first takes possession, if the interior of the coop is well whitewashed once a month, the droppings removed twice a week and the bottom covered with a shovelful or two of fresh dry earth from the garden, the quarters will not be such as lice thrive in, and they will soon organize themselves into an emigration society and take themselves off to a more congenial location. But what a job that would be, somebody exclaims, to get down on your knees and dabble around in all these little coops once every month with a whitewash brush. That certainly would be a tiresome, neck-breaking job, but progressive poultrymen do not at this day whitewash in that way. The whitewashing of these coops is done with a sprayer, and it takes just about a minute to do it. If you haven't got a sprayer, buy one. Sell the best pair of fowls on the place rather than be without it. We are wedded to the spray pump, and cannot believe that any poultryman is fully equipped for his business who has not one of these instruments in almost constant use during the summer months

Shut Them Up at Night.

Close the nursery coops up at night. Don't neglect this any night as long as they are occupied by the growing stock. The doors should be made of laths or of wire netting, otherwise the coops will be too close and warm, and they should be so arranged as to be opened in a manner which will allow but one bird to escape from them at a time. The protection of the broods from small four-footed enemies is not the only object of confining them to the coops at night. They should be counted every morning, and this cannot be done when they are allowed to come and go at will, unless the owner is up at the first streak of dawn and present when they leave their quarters. Perhaps some people can correctly count several hundred lively chicks at feeding time, but there are others whom it will make dizzy headed to try it. The chicks that are thus confined will also be more quiet and docile, as they will be more accustomed to the presence of the owner, and are likely to be handled to some extent. The growing stock that have their nursery coop in some secluded spot, and retire to it at night and are off again at daylight; that never see

the owner unless he comes upon them accidentally out on the range, become as shy and wild as partridges, and just about as hard to tame when the time arrives for shutting them in for the winter. Working among such chickens is not an agreeable task for anybody

A Great Chance to Make Money.

I want to tell you of my wonderful success. Being a poor girl and needing money badly, I tried the Dish Washer business and have cleared \$200 every month. It is more money than I ever had before, and I can't help telling you about, for I believe any person can do as well as I have if they only try. Dish Washers sell on sight; every lady wants one. The Moud City Dish Washer Co., St. Louis, Mo., will give you all necessary instructions, so you can begin work at once. The Dish Washer does splendid work; you can wash and dry the dishes in two or three minutes without putting your hands in the water at all. Try this business and let us know how you succeed.

ELIZABETH C.

Pine Tree Poultry Farm.

Black Langshans,
White Wyandottes,
Barred Ply. Rocks,
Game Bantams.

**CIRCULAR FREE.
BARGAINS**

In this years Breeders.

G. A. C. CLARKE,

Le Mars, Iowa.

THE Leghorn Home,

MARRIAM PARK, MINN.

S. C. W. | **Leghorns** | S. C. B.
EXCLUSIVELY.

Winners wherever shown. Send for circular No. 2.

Leghorn Incubator.

Our Own Make.

Constructed on the latest and Most Scientific Principles. Guaranteed to do the work or money refunded. Most simple and accurate regulator of heat yet invented. Made, used and sold by practical poultrymen. Send for Circular No. 21.

Agents Wanted.

Brood Coops.

We have tried keeping the hen with her brood in a well lighted enclosed room with a board floor for the first ten days or two weeks, and have arrived at the conclusion that the plan is not a good one. We believe that it is best to place them at once in an open, airy coop with an earth floor. The larger the coop the less the hen will chafe over the confinement. We make ours three feet deep, and from four to eight feet long. A board fence forms the back, and the sides and front are 2-foot wire and picket fencing. A few loose boards are nailed to the top of the pickets, and two feet of chaff and straw is piled on top of the boards, making a roof which will turn the water during the hardest rain. We would not exchange this rudely constructed nursery coop for anything in that line which we have ever made use of. The hens too tell us in language which cannot be misunderstood that they look upon it as perfection. Place a hen and her brood in possession of such a home after she has been shut up in a closely built, tightly floored room for a week, and she loses no time in clucking her thanks for the change. Such a coop would not do for early spring, nor at any time where the broods would be liable to the assaults of small four-footed enemies such as rats and weasels; but it will be sufficiently warm after the middle of May, and during the hot weather of summer, far better than one more closely built. The brood to which each coop is first given is allowed to retain possession until removed to the winter houses early in the fall, requiring no other looking after than a weekly cleaning out of the coop, and the dropping of a movable picket in place at night, and raising it again in the morning.

Summer Feed for Growing Chicks.

Wheat and millet seed, and perhaps a little cracked corn, is about the only things the chicks need in the way of feed from now till fall. This is on the presumption that they have a good range which is not overcrowded. Otherwise they should have in addition to the above meat or fresh cut bone. Where the range is good the latter will not be necessary, as the insects which will be found will take its place. Leave out the soaked bread and the wet mixtures of whatever kind. Perhaps it

would have been better if they had not been used at any stage of the chicks' growth. We believe the time is near at hand when whole or cracked grain will be generally adopted as the exclusive food for chicks from the hour that they are given their first meal.

White Clover.

As a green food in summer for yarded fowls we know of nothing better than white clover. But in arranging his plans for the summer it will not do for the poultryman to place his entire dependence upon the clover, as this plant luxuriates in a wet season, and is a total failure in a dry one. It is necessary, therefore, to be prepared for this, and have some other green crop at hand in case the season proves an unfavorable one for the clover. When the season is right it can be mowed at least three times, and that which is not required for immediate use can be cured and put away for the winter. The lawns about the village residences are usually sown to bluegrass, but if one-half the growth was composed of white clover it would detract nothing from their prettiness, and the value of the clippings would thereby be much increased. In a good season the lawn could thus be made to produce all the green food in summer, and all the bulky food in winter, which would be required by as many hens as could be successfully kept on a village lot.

Lime.

Keep the floor of the poultry house clean during the summer, and scatter lime in all the corners and crevices, along the sills and in the nest boxes, once a week, or at least every two weeks. The free use of lime in the poultry house will accomplish wonders. We are tempted to say that the poultry keeper who does his whole duty in this respect can dismiss all fear of lice, as well as of the deadly diseases which are liable to play havoc with the flocks in summer. In recent years there have been attempts to talk down the benefits of lime in the poultry house, but those who have regularly made use of it will continue to scatter the lime without any fear of the evil results against which they have been warned. Lime is a little too old fashioned to suit the fancy of some highly progressive people, but it is one of the old things which it is safe to tie to. There are other means of at-

taining the same ends, but there is a vast number of people who would use nothing for the above purpose if they did not use lime, and we do not wish to weaken the faith of these people with regard to an agent in which they place great reliance, and which really possesses qualities which it would be little short of a sin to depreciate.

All interested in poultry send 10 cents in stamps to Des Moines Incubator Co., Des Moines, Iowa, for book on practical poultry keeping, containing much valuable information.

On receipt of 10 cents and the names of ten poultry breeders, we will send the MESSENGER one year. Tote fair with us, and send us only names of breeders, not farmers, except in the case of farmers who breed thoroughbred poultry.

What a Lot of Eggs

the hens lay when fed on Green Cut Bone: With a dozen hens

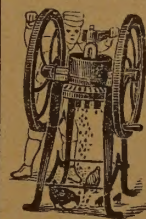


MANN'S

Green

Bone Cutter

Will pay for itself in a short time in the increase of eggs.



Five Dollars buys one

SENT ON TRIAL.

180 Highest Awards Received.

Catalogue free if you mention this paper.

F. W. MANN CO.
MILFORD, MASS.

Barred and White



Plymouth
Rocks,

And Colored

Muscovey Ducks

Are our specialties. Eggs \$2 per 13; \$3.50 per 26. Duck eggs \$2.50 per 11. We have 11 other varieties, and guarantee to please our customers or quit the business. Order early. A 2-cent stamp gets our illustrated catalogue.

Address

J. E. Teal & Co.

Indianapolis, Indiana.

Timely Topics.

G. A. C. CLARKE, LE MARS, IOWA.

This year's hatching season being over it is in order to give the best possible care and attention to the chicks on hand, so that they may be kept growing right along with a view to being in a condition to pay for their keep next winter as layers or show birds. When the chicks are weaned from the hen or brooder, if raised by the former method give them a thorough dusting with insect powder to rid them of lice; give two applications of the powder at an interval of four days. When sure they are free from lice colonize them about the farm not to exceed two dozen or thirty in a flock. For this number a coop six by three feet, with a good tight roof, is none too big, open in front, closed at both ends and back. Stake it down solid so the wind will not tip it over. Place these coops, which can be very cheaply made of old boxes or barn boards, on the edge of the corn fields or groves, if these are handy to the house, thereby giving the chickens the needed shade during the hot weather. Provide a water receptacle and grit box for each colony, and see to it that neither are allowed to remain empty for any length of time. If the range is good, a light feed in the morning of mash, and a full meal of grain in the evening, will be all that they will require. Many persons I know are under the impression that chicks can pick up the necessary grit; such, however, is not the case, unless in exceptional localities, as can be readily proved by putting a box of "manufactured" grit near the coop and taking notice how much is left at the end of a week. The chicks being free from lice when put out will remain so until they are put in winter quarters, or come in contact with the breeding stock, and will make a rapid growth, there being no reason why they should not. When the cockerels arrive at an age when they interfere with the pullets, pick out the very best to sell as breeders, and market the rest as soon as they are fit; do not hold them over until Thanksgiving when every one is selling their surplus and the market is glutted. While giving your very best attention to the young stock do not forget the old; sell all such as you do not wish to keep over the winter now, before they begin to moult. Those to be retained feed well

to assist them in moulting, and clean out the houses often, raking up and burying all the feathers shed.

Don't Do It.

If you kept a dozen hens last year and had good success with them, don't conclude that you are now qualified to manage a flock of several hundred, and begin making preparations for such an undertaking the coming winter. You couldn't count in a week the number of people who have made that mistake, and a very considerable proportion of them were almost if not quite as smart as you are. If you did well with a dozen hens last year try fifty this year. There are several things about poultry keeping which you don't know yet, and it will be safer and easier for you to improve upon your education with a flock of fifty than one of three or five hundred. This is sound advice. If you don't take it the chances are a hundred to one that you will wish you had.

Bribe Them to Stay at Home.

When a long rainy spell comes, such as we have recently had in Iowa, double the feed of the growing stock and thus keep them out of the grass as much as possible. They will remain in the dry unless compelled to go out for the purpose of satisfying their hunger. They should not be required to wade about continually in the wet grass at such a time, and there will be little temptation for them to do so if they can have enough to eat without it.

A Scaly Inheritance.

If a flock of fowls became affected with scaly leg last winter, it is safe to say that the birds which are to be housed in the same quarters the coming winter will be affected in the same way, unless the premises are in the meantime thoroughly disinfected. The walls should be well whitewashed, the floor scraped and limed, and Lee's or Kentfield's lice killer regularly applied to the perches twice a week. If the house is at present occupied by the remnant of last year's flock, this should be done at once in order that the organisms which produce the disease may be completely exterminated before the house is furnished with its full complement of birds. Scaly leg is a bothersome disease to deal with, and it should be stamped out before it has had a chance to spread through the different

flocks. It is easily gotten rid of at the start, but will lead to an endless amount of tedious work if too long neglected.

If a brood coop roof is a little defective, permitting water to penetrate to the interior, cover with tarred paper, using a few laths to hold it in place. This is quickly done, and as a temporary covering, is as good as anything which can be applied. It will last through a season, and give perfect protection to the flock during the hardest rain.

On receipt of 10 cents and the names of ten poultry breeders, we will send the MESSENGER one year. Tote fair with us, and send us only names of breeders, not farmers, except in the case of farmers who breed thoroughbred poultry.

200 Rose Comb Brown Leghorn Hens
—200 FINE CHICKS—
25 Eggs for \$1.00

Balance of season. My Leghorns are winners. They will suit you.

A Better dog than the Bull Terrier hasn't been discovered. Fine litter of pups very cheap.

Don't pay any more than I ask for Dogs or Leghorns.

FASHION KENNELS,
Hawarden, Iowa

Good Birds at Rock Bottom Prices.

Pure bred Black Langshans of both sexes. Cockerels \$1 each, pullets 50 cents. Also Light Brahma cockerels at same price. No better stock in Iowa.

MRS. J. A. BOYNTON,
Clarion, Wright county, Iowa.

CAPON TOOLS

Complete set, with full instructions, post-paid, on receipt of \$2.50. 28 p. Capon Book free for 2c. stamp. Poultry Marker 25c. Roup Syringe, 10c.

Gape-Worm Extractor, 25c. Remit by Money-Order or register'd letter.

G. P. PILLING & SON.
Post Office Box 896
115 S. 11th St., Phila., Pa.

SIMPLEX HATCHER & BROODER

combined. The most Perfect Incubator Made. Hatches every egg that a hen could hatch; Regulates itself automatically; Reduces the cost of poultry raising to a minimum. Send for illus. Catalogue. Simplex Manuf'g Co., Quincy, Ill.



SUCCESSFUL INCUBATOR

Our magnificent new catalogue giving full information regarding artificial Hatching & Brooding and treatise on poultry raising sent for 4c stamps. Circular free.



Write now.
Des Moines Incubator Co.
Box 40 Des Moines, Ia

Fight the Big Weeds.

Keep the big weeds mowed down in the neighborhood of the poultry runs. If there is a patch close by the buildings to which the growing stock appear to be particularly partial, mow it down close to the ground. It is liable to become a veritable pesthouse before the end of the summer. The ground will become strewn with the carcasses of young chickens, many of which will not be discovered and removed until after they have reached an advanced stage of decomposition. An outbreak of the most deadly diseases to which the feathered tribe is subject is most liable to occur at this time of year. A filthy and foul smelling spot like this is simply nursing the germs of these diseases into life, and inviting them to come in and ravage the flock. It is not first-class management to offer inducements to these diseases to pay you a visit at a time of year most favorable for them getting in their work.

Earlier in the season the weeds will form a place of concealment for rats and chicken-destroying cats, which thus shielded from sight, can easily approach and seize their prey and make off with it without discovery by the owner of the flock. Many a chick will thus be lost which would have escaped if it had been necessary for the depredator to venture out in an open and exposed spot in order to obtain it. It is true that these clumps of weeds are a good protection from the sun, but some other means can be made use of which will be equally effective in this respect without being open to the objections above named. The poultryman knows at the beginning of the season that shade will be necessary, and he should make his arrangements accordingly. To place his dependence upon the noxious weeds which will grow up in the unused corners and disfigure the premises indicates a slackness which is no credit to him.

If one has a tight, rat-proof loft, let him store away in it some wheat in the sheaf. The coming winter occasionally suspend one of these sheaves, head downward, in the scratching pen attached to the fowl house. Picking out the kernels of wheat affords good exercise to the hens, and as a change is preferable to always burying the grain in the litter of the floor.

They Are Bad Eggs.

Eggs which have been under a broody hen for only one night during the hot weather of summer are unfit for table or kitchen use. Such eggs should never be taken to market, as they are liable to spoil somebody's appetite for his breakfast. This writer is ready to confess that he has marketed eggs of this kind, but he has entered into a contract with himself never to do so any more. We believed for many years that such eggs were all right. It never occurred to us that they could be spoiled in consequence of having been under the hen for so short a period. We have always made it a point to collect the eggs every evening, and as our laying hens are all kept in yards, there is never any guess work as to their freshness. But it has happened on occasions that we were away from home during the day and did not return till late at night, and thought it would do no harm to leave the eggs in the nests until morning. We have sometimes found a broody hen on one of the nests, but the eggs went into the market basket just the same. One morning some of those eggs were cooked for our breakfast and we made up our mind on the spot that we did not want any more of them. Neither do we want anybody else to have them. But scores of people have probably lost their faith in human nature as the result of our former ignorance on this point.

If any reader believes that such eggs are good to eat let him have a few of them soft boiled for his breakfast some morning, and it is safe to say that no argument will be needed to convince him of his mistake. This of course has reference to fertile eggs. It is to be presumed that those which were unfertilized would not be effected, at least not to an extent which would be perceptible.

The Lice Made Them Sick.

Will a healthy, well conditioned hen become infested with lice? There is no doubt of it if the lice have obtained a lodgment in the quarters which she occupies. She will be troubled with fewer of them than a sickly one, for the simple reason that she is more able to dust herself and in other ways fight against them. It is a mistake to suppose that lice are never found on a strong, healthy hen. Those who trust to this to keep lice out of their flocks

will soon find a lot of sick hens on their hands, and a lot of lousy hens. But the sickness had its start in the pests which attached themselves to the bodies of the hens while they were in a healthy and thrifty condition.

Ice Cream Made by a New Process.

I have an Ice Cream Freezer that will freeze cream instantly. The cream is put into the freezer and comes out instantly, smooth and perfectly frozen. This astonishes people and a crowd will gather to see the freezer in operation and they will all want to try the cream. You can sell cream as fast as it can be made and sell freezers to many of them who would not buy an old style freezer. It is really a curiosity and you can sell from \$5 to \$8 worth of cream and six to twelve freezers every day. This makes a good profit these hard times and is a pleasant employment. J. F. Casey & Co., 1143 St. Charles St., St. Louis, Mo. will send full particulars and information in regard to this new invention on application and will employ good salesmen on salary.

HAWARDEN, IOWA, July 8, 1896.
The Messenger Company,
Aurelia, Iowa.

Dear Sirs: Find enclosed amount due on advertisement. The MESSENGER, I find, is a very good advertising medium. My advertisement has paid me as well as any paper that I have tried this year. The people the MESSENGER reaches buy and don't haggle prices. Next year I shall want more space in your journal.

F. A. ACKLEY.
Prop'r The Fashion Kennels.

AN ADVERTISEMENT

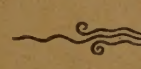
—In the— POULTRY TRIBUNE

Will Bring You Customers.

"Since Feb., 1st I have sold \$180.00 worth of fowls and eggs for which credit is due to the Tribune, and I have shipped to ten different states."

W. H. MILLARD, Genoa, Illinois.

You Make A Mistake By not using
The Tribune
if you are looking for

 **Buyers.**

Rates low, Samples, Testimonials,
Etc., mailed on application to.

THE POULTRY TRIBUNE,
Freeport, Illinois.

POULTRY DISEASES The most valuable treatise on Roup, Sorehead, diphtheritic sore throat, Canker mouth, Catarrh, etc., ever written. **Absolutely free.** Send 3 cents in stamps to pay postage.
WALTER KIRBY & CO., Marietta, O.

A Yearly "Clearance Sale."

The ordinary keeper of poultry will find it profitable to dispose of his old stock every year. The main objection urged against this plan is that it necessitates breeding entirely from pullets, and it is held by many breeders that the birds thus produced are deficient in vigor as compared to those derived from two and three year old hens. While not feeling at liberty to dispute the correctness of this theory, we shall say that it is a theory which is not borne out to any appreciable extent in the experience of the majority of breeders. Early hatched chicks of any breed will reach their maturity at a year old. It does not appear that the addition of another year to their age would add to their potency as breeders. If they gain anything after that which would increase their efficiency in this particular, it is usually obtained at the expense of weaknesses which fully neutralize the good resulting from the added years.

In the north it is necessary to subject the fowls to close confinement from four to six months of the year. It may be doubted if any fowl can go through this treatment and come forth in the spring in a perfectly sound and healthy condition. Any system of winter care is artificial at best, and opens the way for insidious diseases which may not be immediately active and perceptible, but which are none the less existent. The impression thus produced accumulates with every repetition of the treatment. Under the same conditions, the development of disease in a pen of three year old fowls is invariable greater than in a pen of pullets. The older birds carry with them into the pen weaknesses from which the younger are exempt.

We advocate the rearing of young stock in large numbers—the going to the extreme limit in this respect which the facilities at hand will admit of. This is not advising overcrowding. We would have breeders keep on the side of safety, but at the same time we would have them waste no space, to let no chance escape them to rationally increase the size of their flock. Whatever the aim of the breeder, he must have the widest opportunities of selection which his situation and surroundings can give him. There is no other way on earth for him to have pens of first

class birds of his own producing.

The young and growing stock should have unrestricted liberty. It is impossible to rear strong and healthy fowls without it. They should have a monopoly of all the territory to which the keeper can lay claim to ownership. They should not be obliged to compete with the older stock for the treasures of the range. To require them to do this is robbing them of their birthright. Next in importance to good parentage, is the opportunity to make the most of the advantages of their inheritance.

This writer has met with the best success by selling off his old stock every year. He yards the pullets in October, and they never come out of the inclosure until the following July or August, when they are sent to market. He thus keeps his premises free from old stock with its attendant diseases and weaknesses, and if his fowls are less vigorous than those of other people who deem it necessary to breed from two and three year old hens, he has never discovered the fact. We have an ample range for the young birds, but it would not be sufficient if they were required to divide it with the breeding stock. It is true we usually have a few old birds on hand upon which we set a special value for one reason or another, but the above is the general plan of management. And it has proved so satisfactory to us that we cannot feel backward in recommending it as one which can safely be adopted by others.

By the practice of a little surgery, which can be easily and quickly done by any one, a broken legged chick can often be mended up and made as good as new. After bringing the ends of the bones into position, wrap the leg with light strawboard softened in water, and tie with a string. Put the patient in a coop to itself for a week, then remove the wrapping and turn it loose. We believe it is allowable for one to practice surgery to this extent without the permission of the state board of medical examiners.

The poultryman who is not at this time of year making regular use of some means for keeping down the lice, had better not be contending that there are no lice about his premises. People who are thoroughly equipped for fighting the pests, and who are constantly

engaged in warfare against them, find it no easy task to keep the fowls even moderately free from them. Lice will certainly gain a foothold where no work is done to prevent it.

Notice the reduced prices on poultry netting advertised in this number by Geo. J. Nissly, Saline, Michigan. Mr. Nissly deals in no inferior goods, and in sending him an order you can rely upon getting what you bargain for.

The POULTRY HERALD.

ST. PAUL, MINN.
IN ITS EIGHTH YEAR.

The only poultry journal in the north-west. Thoroughly up to date. Only the best writers are engaged to contribute to it. Subscription price 50 cents. Sample copy 4 cents.

Webb Publishing Co., Pub's.

RUTHERFORD BROS.

BREEDERS OF

* White Wonders.

The hardiest of all fowls, and the best general purpose breed for the north. One or two good cockerels for sale at \$3 each.

RUTHERFORD BROTHERS,
Aurelia, Iowa.

Standard Buff LEGHORNS

I want every person interested in this popular and beautiful breed to send for our large, 4-page '95 circular free, stamp accepted. I have one of the finest flocks, and prize winners, scoring 94½ by Felch to 93½ by Drevenstedt. Also Black Javas and Columbian Wyandottes. Get my circular sure.

GEO. S. BARNES,
Battle Creek, Michigan.

Music Lovers

Learn to play any instrument
Without a Teacher.

Send 50c. for Self Instructor.

Also for professional strings for Violin, Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar. Per set 50c. postpaid. Stamps taken.

L. M. MARSH,
Delavan, Illinois.

The Poultry Messenger.

AND

Western Fruit-Grower.

Published the 15th of every month by
The Messenger Company,
AURELIA, IOWA.

Subscription Price, 25 Cents per Year

When you write for sample copies of a poultry paper, do not affix a Chinese puzzle to the bottom of your letter. Sign your name, and sign it in a manner which will enable it to be read. Don't leave the publisher anything to guess at. Editors and printers are popularly supposed to be able to make out any kind of writing, but this is a mistake. And there is really no need of putting ink on paper for the sole purpose of testing their capacities in this direction.

The fellow who recently said in effect that there is no reliance to be placed in the honesty of people who offer eggs for sale for hatching purposes, will probably jump at the chance to let you have a few settings at the usual price, and warrant them to be "all wool and a yard wide."

The MESSENGER wants to express its appreciation of favors received at the hands of the great and influential poultry journals of the country. There is nothing small about the editors of these big papers. Their generosity to us weaklings is deserving of public acknowledgement. Of course there are exceptions, but they are so few and far between that they don't cut any figure in the general count.

It appears that poultry associations which are so ready to ask for free advertising space in papers which none of the members patronize, might see that it would be a proper thing for them to do to offer to take a little of the same space on a cash basis. It may be shrewd business policy to go on the theory that the space is valuable only when it can be had for nothing, but it is neither fair nor generous. Or if it is thought that this would be attended with too much hazard, an association of forty or fifty members might burden itself with a subscription or two by way of return for the favors asked for and

received. We believe in the doctrine of reciprocity, whether applied to affairs of state, or matters pertaining to chickens. This has no reference to show dates or other items of general news, but it does have reference to a common custom of asking for two or three inches of free advertising space by people whom nothing can move to take a single line of the same space for any purpose if they are required to pay for it.

Training a bird for the poultry show is simply educating and preparing him to make a creditable appearance in the world. If he has any weakness, it is perfectly right to teach him to keep it in the background, and to "put his best foot foremost." He should be made to show his good breeding, and not disgrace himself before society. The good people who are horrified at the suggestion could stand a little more education themselves.

A perfectly honest poultry breeder often deceives himself, and is thereby led to deceive others. People must not only be willing to tell the truth, but must place themselves in a position which will enable them to know when they are telling it. By no means all the deception which is practiced is the outgrowth of a dishonest purpose.

The reward will come in time if the efforts are well directed, and continued long enough. Settle down upon a line of work and stick to it. Keep steadily and patiently on your way, and success will surely come sometime. Any kind of legitimate employment will yield a fruitage if one will throw into it all the intensity of his being, and follow it hopefully and persistently. Many people can labor who cannot wait. They chafe, and fret, and worry over temporary defeats and discouragements, and finally give up the fight just at the time when they should be most severely devoting all their working powers to the task which they have in hand. As the darkest hour is just before day, so victory usually follows immediately after the crisis at which the burden presses the hardest.

If an insurrection, revolution, civil war, or any little thing like that, should grow out of the present excited state of the public mind, no chicken crank will be at the start of it. The chicken crank

has enough on his hands just at this moment without taking upon himself the burden of running the government. He is very busy, and the great men of the nation will be obliged to look elsewhere for guidance and instruction. He harbors a suspicion too that if nine-tenths of the loud-talking "sovereigns" would take a lesson from him, and busy themselves with some useful employment, they would have less time to distress themselves over the mistakes of the government, and yet would know fully as much about the currency and tariff questions as they do at present.

"Study law at Home," is the headline of an advertisement which is familiar to every reader of the periodicals of the day. Perhaps a man can study law at home and become a shining light in the profession. But the poultryman cannot win a place among those who are in the front ranks unless he does a considerable part of his studying away from home. It is an absolute necessity for him to know something beyond what comes to him from his own yards, or what he can learn from the poultry papers. He must frequently part company with his charges and "get out among the boys." The dust, and cobwebs, and moss must be rubbed off him by contact with other breeders. He must eat of the food which is made from the "commerce of intellects." Without it he will settle down into a crank—a noisy, creaking, nerve-splitting crank, which thinks all the world must revolve within its little circle, or go to the bow-wows.

Breeding for fancy points is all right. Breeding for utility is all right. The breeder should be at perfect liberty to do either the one or the other. It all depends upon his personal inclinations and tastes, and the market he is breeding for. There is a legitimate demand for birds bred according to both systems. While utility is the quality most generally desired and sought for, there is a large number of people who are indifferent to it. It is the fancy points which they want at any cost or any sacrifice. It is a perfectly straight business to breed with a view to meeting this demand. Beauty has a claim of its own separate and apart from utility. An artist should not be denied a place in the world simply because he is not an expert at whitewashing a garden fence

Notes About Chickens and Fruits. And Answers to Queries.

Address all communications for this department to O. P. Greer, Bourbon, Indiana, and mention the MESSENGER.

My birds were a long time moulting last fall, one of them did not get through till January. I would like for you to inform me how to hurry up this moulting, as my fowls were unfit to exhibit last season.

Fowls usually get pretty well run down during the breeding season, and being left to take care of themselves the balance of the summer, are not in a very good condition to go through moulting. You should continue to give them the best of care right on during the summer and fall months. See that they have good nourishing and fattening food, keep their coops perfectly clean and well ventilated and a supply of pure water always handy. Put in the water a little of the Tinct. of Iron. Feed liberally with corn and oats ground together, also ground wheat and bone. If they do not run at large where they can get a good supply of bugs and worms, see that they have meat scraps of some kind. Provide plenty of shade during the hot months, protect them from the storms and cold later on, and you will find them dropping out the old feathers and new ones taking their place rapidly. But occasionally a fowl will be found that will moult late in spite of the best of feed and care.

The future prospect of poultry breeding will depend largely upon those who breed fancy poultry. Just as long as the quality increases the price will surely increase. Inferior stock will always be a drag on the market. Most everybody has learned that there is a great difference between a good fowl and a scrub. The old idea that a chicken is a chicken, is now almost exploded. People are always reaching out and searching for something better, and are generally willing to pay a fair price for good birds. This is an incentive to breeders to produce better stock and get better prices. The fancy poultry business is full of promise and encouragement to those who have or will bring their stock up to a high standard of perfection.

It is my opinion that every variety in the standard should be illustrated: the outlines of each variety correctly

portrayed, showing the breeder a picture of a perfect comb, a perfect shape of back, &c. It would be of far more benefit to him than any description which words could possibly convey. What would a novice know about a saddle rising with a concave sweep to the tail, or the standard description of the wing of a Silver Wyandotte? You can say that the journals are full of cuts which the novice can see, but nine-tenths of the cuts which you see in the poultry papers do more harm than good. What we want is something that is nearly perfect, or an ideal cut of each variety adopted by the American Poultry Association—something that the judges would have as a guide, and something that they would be compelled to follow. Give us an illustrated standard next time by all means, and if possible, in colors.

Harriet Beecher Stowe's Last Letter.

The last thing written by Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, only a few days before her death, was a loving acknowledgment to the public for fond remembrances and tokens and expressions of public esteem, on her 85th birthday, which she sent to *The Ladies' Home Journal*. In the next issue of that magazine it will be published in fac simile. It reflects the beautiful nature of the gifted authoress, and by her death has become her last message to the American public.

This office has been favored with a copy of *The Poultry World*, published at Kearney, Nebraska, H. H. Stoddard editor. Many of the most widely known poultrymen of this day received their first lessons in poultry keeping from Mr. Stoddard twenty-five years ago, who was then publishing the leading poultry journal of the world. The new *Poultry World* is just such a paper as one would naturally expect under the editorship of a man of Mr. Stoddard's extensive knowledge and experience.

The *Poultry Tribune* completed its first year with the August number. It is plainly to be seen that the public intends it shall live to celebrate many returns of the day. The *Tribune* is one of the most prosperous of the new poultry papers, and it fully merits the excellent patronage it is receiving. The success of the *Tribune* was assured from the first number.

BREEDERS CARDS.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS.
Cockerels \$1 each; pullets 75 cts. Eggs 4 cts each. A. M. Chamberlain, Aurelia, Iowa.

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SEND TO JOE FARMER, FLUSHING, Ohio, for circular of Choice Barred Plymouth Rocks and eggs.

BLACK MINORCAS, WINNERS at two banner shows, Cleveland and Pittsburg, winning eight premiums and two specials on eight entries at Pittsburg show. Fine breeding cockerels at reasonable prices. Eggs in season. Write for circular. Robert Mairret, Akron, Ohio.

IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC BLK and White Langshans. E. A. R., sure roup cure. A. H. Ascher, Princeton, Ill.

L. BRAHMAS, B. JAVA, R. C. B. Leghorns, from high scoring birds. Eggs \$1.25 per 15. Geo. Hammetter, Sumner, Bremer county, Iowa.

SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURGS exclusively. Be sure and send for my illustrated circular—it is free. W. F. Metz, Ionia, Michigan.

PANSY POULTRY FARM, PANSY, Pa. Thirteen varieties of land and water fowls. Send stamp for circular.

MRS. M. A. SMITH, GILMAN, Iowa., has gilt edge stock of Black and White Langshans. Egg circular free.

GREAT BIG LIGHT BRAHMAS, Eggs and stock for sale in season at hard time prices. Our stock will suit you. L. M. Rowe, Galva, Iowa.

WHITE FACED BLK. SPANISH. I have bred them for 32 years. Eggs \$2 per 13. Discount on larger quantity. Circular and my photograph free. John Bennett, Sunman, Ripley County, Indiana.

THE WESTERN Fruit Grower.

No Longer An Experiment.

Those who had the foresight to plant apple orchards in northwestern Iowa ten years ago, and take care of them, are now rewarded with abundance of fruit. The apple orchards are loaded this year. Every tree which was given half a chance to live is bent to the ground with its weight of fruit. The only exceptions to this are a few trees of certain varieties which should not have been planted in this climate, and which would never have been planted, had the owners been possessed with only a moderate amount of knowledge bearing on the subject of fruit growing. But in spite of the deplorable lack of information on the subject, the general neglect of orchards and their entire absence on at least half the farms, northwestern Iowa will produce a sufficient quantity of summer and fall apples this season to fully supply the home demand. One result of this will be an increase of public confidence in the locality as a fruit growing section, and, as a consequence, more extensive plantings in future.

Alfalfa in the Orchard.

Within the past year or two Alfalfa is being given a trial in many parts of the northwest where it has never been sown before. There are various opinions as to its adaptation to the conditions of climate and soil peculiar to the prairie region of the west. It is as yet an experiment, though giving fair promise of coming into general use in the near future. But it is none too soon to apprise orchard owners of the fact that alfalfa should not be sown among fruit trees. The roots of this plant penetrate to a great depth and absorb the moisture which would otherwise be appropriated by the trees. A surer way of destroying a young orchard could not be adopted than by sowing it to alfalfa.

• Grape Growing.

Don't be afraid of plowing the ground too deep for grape planting. The grape is a gross feeding and deep rooting plant. It should be given every oppor-

tunity to sink its roots down deep into the ground. Shallow planting is usually disappointing. One very successful grape grower here in the northwest recently told the writer that he never makes the hole in which the vines are to be set less than eighteen inches deep, and another invariable rule of his is to plant in the fall. In common with most northwestern fruit-culturists, he deprecates fall planting as a general rule, but he makes an exception of the grape. He plants just before the winter freeze-up, and immediately covers with earth or straw.

The right distance to set the plants is ten feet in the row, and rows twelve feet apart. Closer planting will lead to a crowded condition of the vines which will materially lessen the yield of fruit.

O. P. Greer's Experience With Small Fruits.

The Marshall and Brandywine strawberry did not prove to be as good as some of the older varieties this season. Marshall had a few nice berries, but not enough of them. Brandywine was inclined to grow scrawny berries. I will try them one more year and if they do not do better will drop them. Haverland, Jesse, Parker Earl, and Bubach No. 5 were my best this season. Warfield bore an immense quantity of berries but too small to be a good seller. This is my last year for the Warfield. Greenville, Princess and Lovett did reasonably well, but not up with the four mentioned above. From an acre and a half of strawberries this year I picked ten thousand quarts. If my patch had all been Haverland, Bubach, Parker Earle and Jesse, I would have picked fifteen thousand quarts instead of ten.

Raspberries and blackberries are doing fine. The Palmer and Conrath raspberries are equal in size with the Gregg this season. The Palmer is one week earlier than the Gregg; the Conrath ripens with the Gregg. It is my opinion that the Palmer is one of the very best early varieties.

Probably nothing better can be used as a dressing for injured surfaces on fruit trees, or exposed stumps from which large limbs have been removed, than coal tar. It is impervious to moisture, keeps out insects, and does not harden and crack in the sun. It is cheap, easily applied, durable, and

comes as near perfection for the above purpose as anything which can be made use of.



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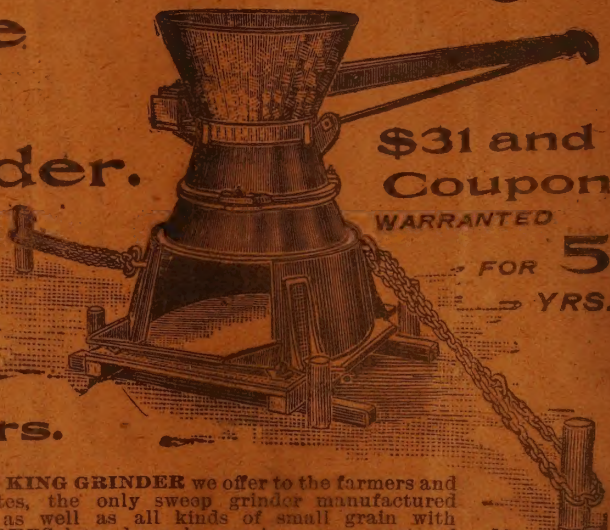
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WARRANTEE.—We warrant the GRAIN KING to grind ear corn soft or hard at from 12 to 15 bushels per hour—to grind oats or any other small grain mixed—to grind shelled corn, wheat, barley, rye and other small grain mixed or separately—to grind from 9 to 14 bushels of small or mixed grain for hog feed per hour according to the degree of fineness—to grind shelled corn for stock feeding from 15 to 20 bushels per hour. We warrant the GRAIN KING to do first class grinding for 5 years from date of purchase and furnish free of charge any parts wearing out inside of this time. We warrant the GRAIN KING against all imperfections in workmanship and material and will furnish defective parts free of charge at any time.

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